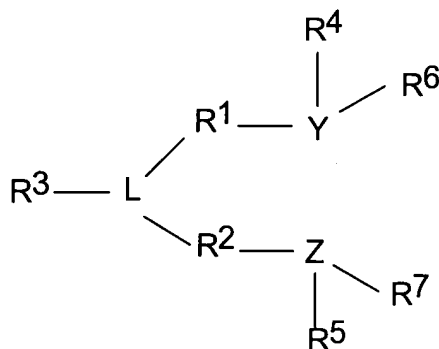


Please enter the following as replacements for claims 30, 33-37, 44-49, and 51. A version with markings to show changes made appears at the end of this amendment.

A² 30. (Once Amended) A method to prepare a metal compound comprising reacting a neutral ligand with a compound represented by the formula M^nX_n where M is a group 3-14 metal, n is the oxidation state of M, and X is an anionic group in a non-coordinating or weakly coordinating solvent, at about 20 to about 100 °C, then treating the mixture with an excess of an alkylating agent, then recovering the metal complex.

A³ 4 38. (Once Amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the neutral ligand is represented by the formula:



where Y is a group 15 element,

Z is a group 15 element,

L is a group 15 or 16 element,

R^1 and R^2 are independently a C_1 to C_{20} hydrocarbon group, a heteroatom containing group, silicon, germanium, tin, lead, or phosphorus,

R^1 and R^2 may be interconnected to each other,

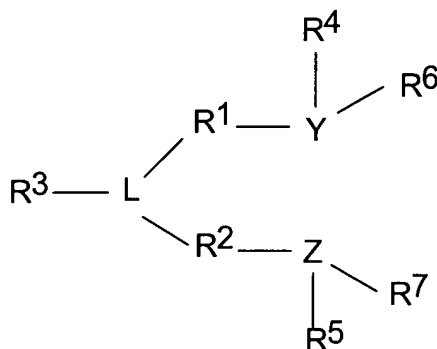
R^3 is absent, hydrogen, a group 14 atom containing group, a halogen, or a heteroatom containing group,

R^4 and R^5 are independently an aryl group, a substituted aryl group, a cyclic alkyl group, a substituted cyclic alkyl group, or a multiple ring system,

R^6 and R^7 are independently absent, hydrogen, halogen, a heteroatom, a hydrocarbyl group, or a heteroatom containing group.

Q3 cont. 5
34. (Once Amended) A method to prepare a metal adduct comprising reacting a neutral ligand with a compound represented by the formula M^nX_n where M is Zr or Hf, n is the oxidation state of M, X is a halogen in a non-coordinating or weakly coordinating solvent, at 20°C or more, then recovering the metal adduct.

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35. (Once Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein the neutral ligand is represented by the formula:



where Y is a group 15 element,

Z is a group 15 element,

L is a group 15 or 16 element,

R^1 and R^2 are independently a C_1 to C_{20} hydrocarbon group, a heteroatom containing group, silicon, germanium, tin, lead, or phosphorus,

R^1 and R^2 may be interconnected to each other,

R^3 is absent, hydrogen, a group 14 atom containing group, a halogen, or a heteroatom containing group,

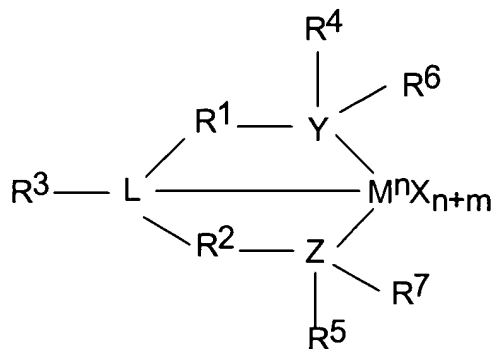
R^4 and R^5 are independently an aryl group, a substituted aryl group, a cyclic alkyl group, a substituted cyclic alkyl group, or a multiple ring system,

R^6 and R^7 are independently absent, hydrogen, halogen, a heteroatom, a hydrocarbyl group, or a heteroatom containing group.

7
36. (Once Amended) A reaction product of a neutral ligand reacted with a compound represented by the formula M^nX_n where M is Zr or Hf, n is the oxidation state of M, X is an

Q3 cont anionic leaving group, in a non-coordinating or weakly coordinating solvent at about 20 to about 100 °C.

8/37 (Once Amended) A composition represented by the formula:



wherein

M is a group 3 to 14 metal,

each X is independently an anionic leaving group,

n is the oxidation state of M,

m is the formal charge of a ligand comprising Y, Z and L,

Y is a group 15 element,

Z is a group 15 element,

L is a group 15 or 16 element,

R¹ and R² are independently a C₁ to C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a heteroatom containing group, silicon, germanium, tin, lead, or phosphorus,

R¹ and R² may be interconnected to each other,

R³ is absent, hydrogen, a group 14 atom containing group, a halogen, or a heteroatom containing group,

R⁴ and R⁵ are independently an aryl group, a substituted aryl group, a cyclic alkyl group, a substituted cyclic alkyl group, or a multiple ring system,

R⁶ and R⁷ are independently absent, hydrogen, halogen, a heteroatom, a hydrocarbyl group, or a heteroatom containing group.

Q4 15/44 (Once Amended) The composition of claim 37 wherein R³ is absent, hydrogen or methyl.

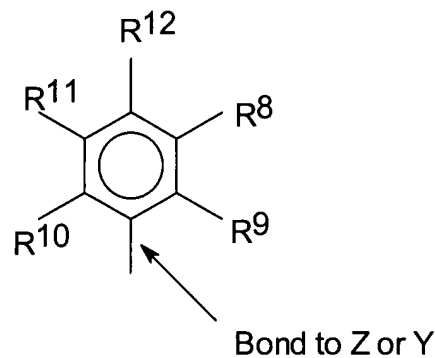
A

Q4 cont-16
45. (Once Amended) The composition of claim 37 wherein R^4 and R^5 are independently a hydrocarbon group having up to 20 carbon atoms.

17
46. (Once Amended) The composition of claim 37 wherein R^4 and R^5 are independently an aryl group or an aralkyl group.

18
47. (Once Amended) The composition of claim 37 wherein R^4 and R^5 are independently an aralkyl group.

19
48. (Once Amended) The composition of claim 37 wherein R^4 and R^5 are independently a group represented by the following formula:

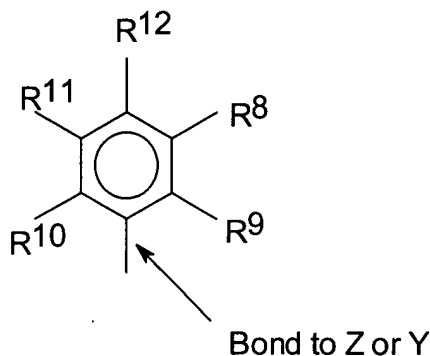


wherein

each R^8 to R^{12} are independently hydrogen, a C_1 to C_{20} alkyl group, a heteroatom, or a heteroatom containing group having up to 40 carbon atoms, and any two R groups can combine to form a cyclic group or a heterocyclic group.

20
49. (Once Amended) The composition of claim 48 wherein R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , and R^{12} are each independently selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, and butyl.

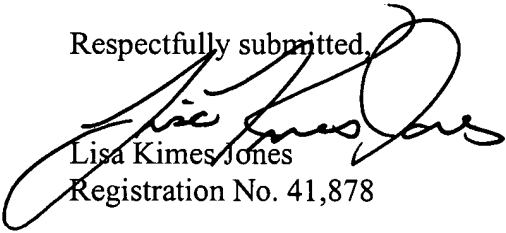
AS 22 8
31. (Once Amended) The composition of claim 37 wherein M is zirconium, each of Y, Z and L is nitrogen, each of R¹ and R² is -CH₂-CH₂, R³ is hydrogen, R⁶ and R⁷ are absent and each of R⁴ and R⁵ is a group represented by the formula:



wherein
each R⁸ to R¹² are independently hydrogen, a C₁ to C₂₀ alkyl group, a heteroatom, or a heteroatom containing group having up to 40 carbon atoms, and any two R groups can combine to form a cyclic group or a heterocyclic group.

Should the Examiner have any questions or require any additional information please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


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